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John Vaughan and Sarah Poindexter married November 5, 1686; Richard Clough and Ann Poindexter married June, 1718; George Hunt and Elizabeth Poindexter married August 24, 1729.

This, like most of our parish registers, is imperfect.

(TO BE CONTINUED.)

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## BOOK REVIEWS.

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YE KINGDOME OF ACCAWMACKE OR THE EASTERN SHORE OF VIRGINIA IN THE SEVENTEENTH CENTURY. By Jennings Cropper Wise, member Virginia Historical Society. The Bell Book & Stationery Co., Richmond, Va., 1911, pp. X, 406.

The two Virginia counties on the eastern side of Chesapeake Bay, known from the first settlement of Virginia as "The Eastern Shore," have had a history, to a great extent, apart from that of the remainder of the colony, and which therefore lends itself much more readily to independent treatment than the ordinary counties of the western shore. The history of this section and of its people is of great interest, and it is remarkable that it has so long awaited a historian. With the exception of the lamented Thomas T. Upshur, whose merits Mr. Wise fully acknowledges, no one could be better equipped for the work of telling this history than the Easternshoreman who has written the very valuable book here treated of. For though possibly born elsewhere and living elsewhere, Easternshoreman he is. He is a member of a distinguished Eastern Shore family, resident there for two hundred and seventy-five years; he is ardently loyal to his section and State, but with a breadth of view increased by residence in great cities and varied experience in the army and at the bar. Fairmindedness, indefatigable industry, minute knowledge of Eastern Shore topography, and a very pleasant and readable style, added to the qualifications which have been mentioned should have been expected to produce good work, and it can be said emphatically that they have done so. From cover to cover, the volume is packed with new and interesting matter.

It is not meant that there will not sometimes be differences of opinion as to the author's conclusions, and sometimes (though rarely) with his statements of facts. For instance, in the very preface the reader would like to see some of the numerous instances in which the kings of England addressed "decrees" (proclamations are probably meant) to "Ye Colony of Virginia and the Kingdom of Accawmacke." The first chapter treats of Spanish explorations and other voyages to the Chesapeake before 1607. The author firmly believes that Verrazano was on the Eastern Shore in 1524. The next chapter tells of the coming of the English and of Smith's explorations. Here, as throughout the book, the author's knowledge of local topography adds greatly to the interest and value of his work.

Chapter III is on "Argall's Visit and Dale's Gift." The latter was the name of the first settlement, in 1614, on the Shore, near Cape Charles. The founding of "The Plantation of Accomack" comes next and is given full and careful treatment. In this chapter, Mr. Wise is able to begin the use of the splendid collection of county records, which begins in 1631, and which exists at the county seats of Northampton and Accomac in unbroken series to the present day. Admirable use has been made of these records.

There is no account of the Indians in any other part of Virginia which compares in completeness and authoritative statement with that which is given of the Eastern Shore tribes in Chapter V. And naturally the account of the white inhabitants is even more satisfactory. The history of any people, written by one who has a thorough knowledge of them, must always be of interest, and Chapter VI, on "Origin of the People," might have been greatly extended without wearying the reader. Nowhere in America is there such an unmixed strain of the blood of early Seventeenth Century settlers, nowhere has the population remained so fixed. A visitor may spend the morning studying these early records in the clerk's office at Eastville, and if he, wisely, spend the evening (*Virginia evening*) making the acquaintance of the people he will hear dozens of names he has seen in the records between 1630 and 1660. This steadfastness has not meant degeneracy. There are no more intelligent and industrious people in the country than those of the Eastern Shore, and the two counties are among the most prosperous agricultural sections of the United States. The history, proper, is carried through Chapter XIII, and the same qualities of careful investigation and large use of new materials characterize this, as all other portions of the work. Among the subjects discussed are the different classes of emigrants, the large trade with the Dutch and the West Indies, the difficulties with the Indians and the Dutch, the loyal court order of 1649 recognizing Charles II, conditions under the Commonwealth, the persecution of

the Quakers, the disputes over the Maryland boundary line, the formation of Accomac, pirates, the founding of the various towns and villages. These are only a few of the numerous interesting matters which the author writes of in a very interesting way.

Among the attractions of the book are the very numerous references to individuals and families prominent on the Eastern Shore. Few colonists, not of great historic note, have ever been so vividly presented as the able and masterful Edmund Scarborough, whom one is sometimes tempted to call an unscrupulous ruffian. He was born a hundred years too late and under Elizabeth would have made a famous leader of expeditions for pillaging the rich towns of Spanish America. As has been said, some of the author's conclusions will probably be contested. One of these is his opinion (p. 73), given without much evidence to support it, that many New Englanders settled on the Eastern Shore. He gives certain names of families; but every one who has studied family history knows that ordinary English family names may be found anywhere. Their appearance in the colony or another does not, in the least, indicate whence they came. Of the names mentioned, Cotton and Stone certainly came directly from England, and Eyre from Pennsylvania, and it is probable that all the others named, except Eaton, were from England. There were no doubt some New Englanders on the Eastern Shore; but they were a small minority. The fact that one Gookin was converted to Puritanism and removed to Massachusetts is certainly no proof that another Gookin, who did not remove, but who remained in Virginia and held offices he could not have held unless a member of the Church of England, was probably a Puritan. Nor can Mr. Wise's enthusiasm for Douglas Campbell be fully endorsed. Portions of Campbell's book are of value; but others are absolutely worthless. He knew little of Virginia history, and ascribes to various customs, legal practices, and institutions in the United States a Dutch (*via* Puritan) origin, when these very things existed in Virginia before Holland or Massachusetts could have influenced the country.

Mr. Wise very properly calls special attention to the "Northampton Protest" of 1652 (p. 139, &c.). It was one of the most interesting incidents of Eastern Shore history, as it was virtually an attempt to secede from Virginia and to set up a separate government. Whether it deserves the praise for patriotism given it by the author is another question. The people of the Eastern Shore were as patriotic as others; but there is much apparent patriotism which is found, when one goes beneath the surface, not to be so patriotic after all. If Dr. Johnson, instead of defining patriotism as the last refuge of scoundrels, had said that it often means dislike of the tax collector, he would have been nearer the mark.

In this case the movement could hardly have been against the Commonwealth, for the protestors say that, if they have the chance, they will vote for one of the Commonwealth's representatives, Bennett, as Governor. The statement in the protest that since the year 1647, the people of the Eastern Shore thought they had been separated from Virginia, appears to be without any foundation. The fact that they had only one burgess in 1651, amounts to nothing, for frequently only one burgess from a county attended. It is impossible now to ascertain why no writs of election were sent to the Eastern Shore for the sessions of 1648 and 1649; but in the former year the Assembly showed that it considered the people east of the Bay to be, as usual, in Virginia, by appointing Littleton and Scarborough to collect taxes from them. (*Hening*, I, 356.)

Though there is no evidence to support it (we have, however, but little evidence about anything at this period), it might seem a plausible conjecture that this attempted secession of the Eastern Shore was instigated by the Parliamentary commissioners sent to reduce Virginia and Maryland. Throughout the history of the world there has been no more common method of attacking a hostile country than by trying to excite discontent or rebellion in part of it. The Parliamentary fleet arrived in Chesapeake Bay in January, 1651-52, and were blockading James River and negotiating for the surrender of Virginia for nearly two months. If the commissioners could induce the Eastern Shore to adhere to Parliament and establish a government independent of that which still held out for the King, they would inflict a severe blow on the latter and at the same time secure an admirable base for further offensive operations. To the remote Eastern Shore government from Jamestown was always inconvenient and taxation (though not higher than the rest of Virginia) not readily borne. It is true that the protest was dated March 30, while Berkeley had surrendered on the 12th of the month; but such a movement once started could not be readily stopped. An additional proof that the protest was not against the Parliament is shown by the fact that on March 11th, just nineteen days before the protest was drawn, an agreement to be true and faithful to the Commonwealth of England had been numerously signed on the Eastern Shore, and among the signers were all of those who signed the protest, except Nuthall. Both engagement and protest were signed in March, 1651-52.

Space would not admit of further discussion of Mr. Wise's very interesting treatment of the history of the section during the English Civil War and Bacon's Rebellion. The latter, including Berkeley's forced visits to the Shore, and his proceedings there, contains much new and interesting matter.

The author makes a curious slip (for, of course, it was a mere inad-

vertance) on page 242, when he says "that 1685 was an era of Jacobitism in Virginia, overlooking the fact that no such thing as Jacobitism existed until after the Revolution of 1688.

After finishing the general history, the author devotes several chapters to the Church on the Eastern Shore, Puritan ministers, Makensie and Presbyterianism, the negro and the slave (it may be mentioned that he discovered free negroes owning land at a very early date), horses and cattle, game and fish (subjects for a book in that country) and, finally, the personal belongings of the people, their books, furniture, &c., social condition, customs and traditions.

Appendices contain lists of members of the Council and House of Burgesses from Accomac and Northampton, papers from the County Court records relating to Sir Thomas Dale, a list of Northampton tithables, 1666, brief biographical and genealogical notes, and other valuable documents.

Mr. Wise's work can be highly commended not only to Eastern Shore people and their descendants and to other Virginians, but to all Americans who may desire to know more of a section not quite like anything else in America.

THE ARMISTEAD FAMILY, 1635-1910. By Mrs. Virginia Armistead Garber, Richmond, Va., Whittet & Shepperson, Printers, 1910. Pp. 319, with index, several coats-of-arms, and a view of "Hesse," house, &c.

For a number of years Mrs. Garber has been making a most minute and careful study of the genealogy of the Armistead family. The name is as numerously represented and so widely scattered that it would be impossible to make an account which is absolutely complete; but the author has gathered all the information which has been in print, or which could be collected by a widespread correspondence.

While the continuity of the genealogy is broken into, and perhaps sometimes a little confused by the interjection of matter relating to allied families, this is a very small matter. The chief object of the book is to present an account of the Armistead family, and this appears to be very well and thoroughly done. There are numerous notices of families connected with the Armisteads. In some of these corrections should be made. On page 112 "Eliason" should be "Ellyson," and John Randolph had nothing to do with the writing in the family Bible referred to. The records in this Bible are only known in a copy made by John Randolph. The derivation of the English name "Kidder" from "Kedar, a Cossac, or Arab (Tartar)," might certainly have been omitted, as might also have been the statement that horses